

## Message Text

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71

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 OFA-01 EB-07 AS-01 /019 W

----- 041884

P 270210Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6374

UNCLAS TOKYO 1164

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE MARKET FOR FRESH OYSTERS

REF: R 210344Z JAN 76 (STATE 014932)

1. STATEMENTS BELOW CORRESPOND TO QUESTIONS A-C REFTEL.

A) MARKETING OF FRESH SHUCKED OYSTERS IN JAPAN BEGINS IN OCTOBER BECAUSE OF DANGER OF SPOILAGE DURING WARM WEATHER. WEEKLY TOKYO FISH MARKET WHOLESALE PRICES OF FRESH SHUCKED OYSTERS FOR OCT. 1975 ARE SHOWN BELOW.

YEN/KILOGRAM

LOW HIGH

|          |       |       |
|----------|-------|-------|
| 1ST WEEK | 1,000 | 1,900 |
| 2ND WEEK | 800   | 2,000 |
| 3RD WEEK | 900   | 2,100 |
| 4TH WEEK | 800   | 2,050 |
| 5TH WEEK | 1,350 | 2,070 |

B) OFFICIAL CUSTOMS INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE OYSTERS ARE NOT LISTED AS SEPARATE CATEGORY IN JAPANESE IMPORT STATISTICS. ACCORDING TO A FISHERIES TRADE JOURNAL JAPANESE IMPORTS OF FRESH SHUCKED OYSTERS FROM ROK BEGAN IN OCT. 1975 AND ARE ABOUT 15 METRIC TONS PER MONTH. IMPORT PRICE IS NOT AVAILABLE. ACCORDING TO THE SAME JOURNAL, JAPANESE WHOLESALE PRICE FOR ROK OYSTERS IS 700-800 YEN PER KILOGRAM COMPARED WITH 1,400 YEN FOR THE JAPANESE DOMESTIC PRODUCT.

C) THERE APPEARS TO BE LIMITED POTENTIAL AT PRESENT FOR JAPANESE IMPORTS OF OYSTERS (JAPAN IS A WELL KNOWN EXPORTER OF OYSTERS). ALTHOUGH JAPANESE DOMESTIC PRODUCTION

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FLUCTUATES SLIGHTLY DEPENDING ON SEAWATER TEMPERATURE AND

DISEASES, IT IS SUFFICIENT TO MEET DOMESTIC DEMAND FOR  
CRASSOSTREA GIGAS. JAPANESE IMPORTS MENTIONED PARA 2  
ABOVE ARE BEING CONDUCTED BY ONLY ONE KOREAN RESIDENT IN  
JAPAN WHO HAS SHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS WHICH ENABLE HIM TO  
PLACE FRESH ROK OYSTERS ON SALE AT THE TOKYO FISH MARKET  
WITHIN 15 HOURS AFTER HARVESTING.

2. FYI REFTEL RECEIVED AT EMBASSY AFTERNOON OF JAN. 23.  
HODGSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHELLFISH, PRICES, MARKET OPPORTUNITIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1976TOKYO01164  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760030-0016  
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**Office:** ACTION COME  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hattaycs  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 28 JUN 2004  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** EFIS, JA  
**To:** STATE  
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